Australian Cannabis Nurses Association



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Call for Patient Stories: Australian DVA patients that are using medical cannabis for PTSD or TBI.

The Australian Cannabis Nurses Association (ACNA) supports the #nomorezombieveterans campaign and we are working closely with them to advocate for returned veterans in Australia to access medical cannabis via the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

DVA funds access to medical cannabis for chronic pain but will not fund access for PTSD or TBI patients. Australia is the only country (with medical legalisation) that does not support veteran access to medical cannabis for PTSD or TBI and as nurses, we believe this is a human rights issue.

Cannabis is about the Endocannabinoid System (ECS), a now recognised body system, and the dynamic interactions the ECS has within the body - particularly in the brain. There is robust evidence to support the use of medical cannabis for patients with PTSD and TBI and we believe the DVA should be subsidising medical cannabis for our veterans with these conditions.

ACNA is seeking veteran patients who are willing to share their PTSD and TBI medical cannabis story. We are collecting stories to present to DVA and Members of Parliament as this campaign progresses. You can do this de-identified if you wish.

If you would like to share your story about PTSD, TBI and medical cannabis, or have any questions about it, please reach out to us at info@acna.online and we will assist you.

Further reading:

 $\underline{https://www.change.org/p/nomorezombieveterans-medicinal-cannabis-for-australian-veterans-with-post-traumatic-stress-disorder-ptsd$

https://www.propatria.com.au/

https://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/treat/cooccurring/marijuana ptsd vets.asp